

## LESLIE CARTER IN "KASSA"

A PLAY OF ANCIENT HUNGARY  
BY JOHN LUTHER LONG.The Actress Returns to New York in Five Acts of Elaborately Mounted Romance and Receives a Tremendous Welcome  
—Charles Millward Leading Man.

Mrs. Leslie Carter reached the height of her career last evening at the Liberty Theatre, when she made her first appearance about thirty-five feet above the level of the stage. Not even when she did her "curfew shall not ring to-night" stunt in "The Heart of Maryland" did she ever get quite as high as that.

Mrs. Carter had not been seen in New York for something more than two years. She elected to return under her own management in a play called "Kassa" (and pronounced "Kassah"), by John Luther Long of "Madame Butterfly" fame. And whatever may be the ultimate fate of her present venture, so far as public support is concerned, it is doubtful if any actress ever got a louder or more prolonged welcome to our city than the lady of the temperamental tresses received last evening.

It may be that it was just a little bit too prolonged, but however that may be, the fact remains that the curtain rose after the third act, which was one of Mrs. Carter's very best, so very many times that people got tired counting. It certainly must have been more than twenty. And the fourth act record wasn't much behind the third. If first night curtain calls spell success Mrs. Carter may congratulate herself.

Mrs. Long appeared alone at the fifteenth or sixteenth curtain call, and he did well to wait until then, for really, truth to say, Mrs. Carter doesn't owe him such a deep debt of gratitude for providing her with her latest vehicle "Kassa" as long as art but scarcely so artistic. It is in five acts, and the last one was not over until nearly midnight. Everything happens in Austria-Hungary, and it is all most complicated. Least the complications should be too snarly for the public mind the usual programme was accompanied with a little folder which thus stated the theme:

In the ancient Hunnish "Book of the Dragon of Care" and the Story of the Broken Butterfly therein it is told how once upon a time the Prince and the Princess met without the walls of her convent on the eve of her vigil, that day before tomorrow when she should take the Black Veil of Perpetual Immaculation, that last day when she might go where she would to make farewell to the gladness of life she should see no more. And now the Prince told her of the World beyond the Hills and sang its songs to her and tempted her until a madness came upon her. Now when his tales had made her mad for the World so that it could no longer be borne by herself or others she joyously and with eagerness put upon herself his raiment and made a little journey in the World, whereof the beginning was the second Morning, the best was the sunny Noonday, then came the weariness of Afternoon and the terrors of the Evening. And the ending of the Little Journey was the Night.

All of which means that the wicked Prince tempted the little novice to go to see the bad world, took advantage of her by means of a fake marriage service and then deserted her after he had made her mother. So she waits in a convent in the usual Carter fashion for his return, but he does not come—HE DOES NOT COME!! His political enemy comes, however, to get evidence of his escape, with which to ruin him at court. When upon Kassa denies that she ever knew him and even when the Prince appears she maintains the deception.

Afterward made mad by being deserted she follows the Prince to court to denounce him, only to learn that under her accusation he may be put to death, a possibility which she averts by implicitly promising herself to the Prince's enemy, only to repudiate the evil bargain when she has carried her point. Which done, the now experienced, broken novice returns to the quiet convent.

The five scenes in which these incidents are unfolded are all beautiful, the dawn of Easter is represented in the first act, and the lights are so well managed as to win a burst of hearty applause. The clothes of the play are in fact all that could be desired and are plainly the result of much expense and endless intelligent pains. It cannot be said, however, that Mr. Long has shown much skill in character drawing. Few of the many characters involved in the representation are convincing, and the character assumed by Mrs. Carter herself frequently appears more like a clotheshorse upon which to drape various emotional fabrics than like a human being.

Mrs. Carter is not greatly different from the Mrs. Carter with whom the public has long been familiar. She was at her best last evening in the scene in which she pleads with the Prince not to desert her. Mr. Long has seen fit to make the evil noble incredibly hard hearted, but the scene gave Mrs. Carter a chance to show all the things that she knows how to do better than anybody else. It is a scene in which she pours out a torrent of language, gasps, sobs, half suppressed cries, moans, gurgles and wailings, accompanied by writhings, wringing of the hands and all the other accompaniments of genuinely Carterized emotion.

It is the sort of thing called "emotional acting" by those who like it, and "throwing fits" by those who don't. Whatever it is, Mrs. Carter does it as well as ever and a burst of applause rewarded her exhausting efforts. The supporting company was a large one and included such well known players as Charles Millward, Robert Cummings and Eleanor Moretti, who is too big an actress not to be seen often and in better parts.

## EIGHT MONTHS FOR CONTEMPT.

Manufacturer Also Fined \$750 for Conduct in Bankruptcy Matter.

Jacob Cashman, senior member of the firm of Cashman & Cashman, manufacturers of women's gowns at 28 Waverley place, was arrested last night by United States Marshal Henkel following a decision by Judge Hough in the United States District Court adjudging Cashman guilty of contempt of court in the bankruptcy proceedings instituted against the firm. He alleges that racketeer gambling and cards were the cause of his downfall, but his creditors believe he is trying to conceal his assets.

In the order for his arrest Judge Hough directed that Cashman be imprisoned for eight months and fined \$750.

Cashman has been active in business for the last twelve years. Joseph A. Cashman, a nephew and the junior partner of the firm, is missing, as are Cashman's two daughters, who went out to lunch when the bankruptcy proceedings were started and never returned. The records of the office are hard to find and the safe, which was opened by the receiver, revealed only 23 cents.

Jacob Cashman at the opening of the bankruptcy proceedings displayed such lapses of memory as to balk the efforts of the court to obtain information. He estimated his net worth at \$200,000 in the last five years. Most of this, he said, he lost on racetracks, getting his tips from the line salesmen. "Because of Cashman's conduct on the stand and the excuses he gave to avoid testifying counsel for the creditors started proceedings against him for contempt. An effort was made to show that his department was due to a form of insanity failed."

The conviction is one of the results of the campaign instituted by New York merchants to put an end to fraudulent bankruptcy practices. A number of other cases are said to be pending.

## AT THE OPERAS YESTERDAY.

Mme. Semblich Sings Violetta for the Last Time in New York.

"Carmen" was given at the Manhattan Opera House yesterday afternoon in a manner which assuredly did not eclipse previous performances at the same institution. Mme. Gerville-Reache was the representative of the gypsy. When she sang this part before she was indisposed and every allowance had to be made for her.

Yesterday she seemed to be in full command of her tones, but not of the essential breath support. At any rate it is more charitable to attribute to physical causes than to a want of musical taste her distortion of the rhythm and phrases of the "Habanera" and other important numbers. Mr. Constantino was a most gentle and amiable Don José. His treatment of the part was that of a tenor steeped in Italian conventions. Miss Zepilli was a mediocre Micaela, and Mr. Grabbie a respectable Escamillo. The chorus sang excellently.

At the Metropolitan Opera House Mme. Semblich sang Violetta in "La Traviata" for the last time. There was indeed a mournful significance in her singing of "Addio del passato," which she sings as no other has sung it. Indeed it may now be said that in the last twenty years Mme. Semblich has had her rivals in the music of the first act of "La Traviata," in the last act she has stood alone. Her extraordinary mastery of phrase and vocal color has enabled her to impart to the music a feeling that is not intrinsically its property. She was in excellent voice yesterday and sang beautifully. The audience was most enthusiastic.

Mr. Casuso sang "Alfredo." He was in very poor voice and made little effect with most of his music. Mr. Apapato was the Germont, a role which he sings with a certain amount of authority and great enthusiasm. The audience was one of the largest of the season.

Last night "Götterdämmerung" was given at the Metropolitan Opera House. Mr. Toscanini conducting. Mr. Burgstaller was the Siegfried and Mme. Fremstad the Brünnhilde. The excellence of the performance was the same as in heretofore. At the Manhattan "Bellus et Melisande" was given with the regular cast.

## FOUR KILLED BY AVALANCHE.

Swept Into Cañon by Snow From Colorado Mountaineers.

OURAY, Col., Jan. 23.—A snowslide fifty feet deep tore down the mountainside on the road to the Camp Bird mine and swept to death four men and thirty horses last night. With a crash and roar that shook the hills and drove the miners into a panic the avalanche swept clean its wide path. Timber and shacks as well as human beings and horses were swept over into the cañon. It is said here that the bodies will not be recovered before July or August. It was the first snowslide of the season.

The men who lost their lives in the avalanche were S. G. Doughty, a veterinary; Peter Synot and George Knerr, teamsters, and John Witter, camp cook.

The horses that were killed were at the camp of the Asenfelder freight gang. The men there escaped by a narrow margin just before the camp was wiped out. Narrow escapes were frequent. The four men who lost their lives were in the cook shack and directly in the path of the slide. Their first intuition of peril came when the avalanche swept down on the shack and with the men inside rolled it like a ball down the mountainside. The third coach, with \$2,000 in gold aboard and several passengers, was nearly in the path of the snowslide. It is believed, however, that driver, passengers and luggage are all safe, although a report is current that one of the passengers who was making his way ahead of the coach was caught by the flank of the slide and also carried over the edge.

It is difficult to estimate the amount of the damage to property, and even the figures on the loss of life are uncertain. It is obvious, though, that without a warning in the path of the mass of snow was carried into the cañon. The slide started far up the mountain, and with each foot of progress accumulated bulk and momentum. Snowslides are familiar enough out here. Their coming is heralded by well known signs, and when the men who were at work in the mines heard the rumblings they fled for safety. The mines were not in the path of the avalanche, however, and only the outlying shacks were overwhelmed.

## POLICE DINNER ON FEB. 8.

President Roosevelt and Johnny Meehan on the Lieutenants' Invitation List.

The annual dinner of the Police Lieutenants Benevolent Association will be held in the ballroom of the Waldorf on February 8. Present indications are that the room will not be large enough to hold those who wish to attend.

Invitations to be guests of honor have been sent to President Roosevelt, Gov. Hughes, Mayor McElderry, Comptroller Metz, President McGowan, William M. Lyons, Nathaniel A. Felsberg, Job Hodges, Cresswell Macdonald, Martin W. McAvoy, Patrick H. McCarren, Thomas F. McAvoy, John McCullagh, John Temple Graves, Mark Twain, Andrew Carnegie, Police Commissioner Binham, Deputy Police Commissioners Baker, Bugher, Hanson and Woods; William F. King, William McAloon, Hugh Hastings, Judge Joseph A. Spaulding, Judge Edward E. Smith, Chief Inspector Cortright, R. A. C. Smith, Percy Williams, Simeon Ford, John T. Meehan, Alfred J. Boulton, Robert E. Elder and several others.

## News of Plays and Players.

There will be a benefit for the earthquake sufferers of Sicily at the Hippodrome to-night. Among those who will take part are Manuel Klein's Symphony Orchestra, Edwin A. Clark, Miss Grace Cameron, Miss Marguerite Clark and John Phillips, the Hippodrome Zouaves, Cook and Madison of the Casino Theatre, Miss Nella Bergen, Eddie Foy, De Wolf Hopper, Digby Bell, Miss Bessie McCoy, Melville Ellis and Maud Raymond.

Through the efforts of Clarence Mackay, Robert Collier and other officers of the Lincoln Farm Association Benjamin C. Chapin will appear in his four act play "Lincoln at the White House" beginning Friday, February 5, at the Garden Theatre. The proceeds of the Friday and Saturday evening performances will be donated to the Lincoln Memorial Fund.

## Tatt to Dine With Western Yale Men.

Berkeley, Jan. 23.—Mr. Tatt has informed the Associated Yale Clubs that if possible he will attend as the guest of honor the dinner to be given here on May 29. His acceptance of the invitation was made public last night at a meeting of the Pittsburg Yale Alumni Association held in the University Club.

## Wheeler Won't Head Michigan University.

BERKELEY, Cal., Jan. 23.—President Benjamin Ide Wheeler of the University of California announced to-day that he would not accept the invitation to become the head of the University of Michigan. The position was tendered when he was at Ann Arbor recently.

## SAD BUNGLING AT MESSINA

GEN. MAZZA DESCRIBED AS A SECOND EARTHQUAKE.

Plight of Survivors Grows Worse Through Military Mismanagement—Work of Italian Red Cross Lacks Common Sense—How Russians Shot Looters.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCHES TO THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—Appalling reports reach THE SUN'S London office from Messina regarding the latest condition of the city. The miseries due to the fire and flood of the last few days are augmented by incredible mismanagement by the military authorities, so that now, twenty-five days after the earthquake, the plight of the survivors is worse than it was a fortnight ago, when the writer left.

Gen. Mazza's attempt to starve the refugees into leaving of course had to be abandoned, for the protests of the inhabitants almost caused a mutiny of his own troops.

Considerations concerning valuables, of which vast quantities are still in the ruins, seem to outrank matters of rescue and the comfort of the survivors, until it is a common description of the military commander that Mazza is a second earthquake. Nothing is done without criminal delays through the enforcement of paralyzing bureaucratic formalities. All sorts of orders are issued and often countermanded within an hour.

The operations of the Italian Red Cross are equally criticised and it is certainly an utterly disorganized institution. Its members reply that it is not its function to act in public calamities, but only in time of war.

The writer's personal observation at Messina compels him to say that the work of this institution seemed lacking in the first rudiments of order, system and common sense.

The Duke de'Alarona, vice-president of the Red Cross, challenged a newspaper critic to a duel, which was fought at Palermo this week. The Duke was wounded in the arm. It is not likely that his example will be followed by his colleagues.

A French correspondent who has just returned describes how the Russian naval officers dealt with looters the first week after the earthquake. He says:

"A midshipman commanded a squad of blue-jackets which had been landed for rescue work. On New Year's Day I followed the party for an hour and saw them saving a score of survivors. When they reached a solitary street in the upper part of the city they caught a man looting and brought him before the midshipman, who calmly ordered the men to empty his pockets.

"The sailors did so and found them full of money and jewelry. Then the midshipman spoke three words, evidently the only ones he knew in Italian. 'Ladro' (thief) he asked the prisoner, who, trembling with fear, answered in the affirmative. 'Condannato morte' (condemned to death), said the midshipman, and before the looter could understand the meaning of these two words the midshipman whipped out a revolver and shot him dead. Then he ordered his men to continue the rescue work. I had hardly time to realize that the man had been tried and executed, so quickly was the thing done."

When the sun had set and the squad was returning on board the correspondent asked the midshipman how many looters had been shot. The latter pointed to his empty cartridge pouch and said:

"Before I landed to-day I had twenty-four cartridges here and six more in my revolver. I shot them all at short range."

Rosie, Jan. 23.—The American supply ship Celtic has arrived at Messina and will land one hundred tons of provisions.

Spring weather prevails at Messina and the superstitious Sicilians are convinced that now that sunny weather again prevails there will be no further damage from earthquakes. Many doctors who had volunteered their services in aid of the survivors are now leaving for their homes.

The excavations for the purpose of recovering property are now systematized and are moving along rapidly. Some of the refugees who left after the shocks are returning.

## WESTERN MARYLAND AFFAIRS.

A Step Indicating That the Railroad Company Is to Be Reorganized.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 23.—A step preliminary to a speedy reorganization of the Western Maryland Railroad Company was taken to-day when Judge Morris signed an order in the United States District Court appointing John Hinkley special master to examine and take evidence in connection with the receivership.

After the evidence has been submitted it is expected the court will sign a decree ordering the sale of the road in foreclosure proceedings, but it is not absolutely certain as yet that the road will be sold. The proceedings are precisely similar to those taken in the case of the receivership of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company which led to a reorganization.

The order was signed at the request of the Bowling Green Trust Company of New York, trustee of the general lien and convertible mortgage. Some time ago the receiver, B. F. Bush, filed an answer in the proceedings admitting the road was in default on the interest on these bonds, and the appointment of Mr. Hinkley is a further step in the matter.

## ADELPHI ALUMNE LUNCHEON.

President Mary Woolley of Mount Holyoke College One of the Speakers.

Dr. Mary E. Woolley, president of Mount Holyoke College; Dr. Thomas Balliet, dean of the school of pedagogy at New York University, and the Rev. Dr. Nehemiah Boynton of Brooklyn were the speakers at the annual luncheon of the alumnae of Adelphi College at the Hotel Manhattan yesterday.

The Rev. Dr. Boynton said he thought women had all the rights to which they were entitled and that those who did not think they had simply didn't know how to make use of their enormous indirect influence.

Miss Woolley said that the lives of the women of to-day were in a way not as complex as those of their grandmothers and that it was probably because the mere routine of living was so much simpler than it used to be that women were reaching out after interests outside of their homes.

Miss Emily C. Seaman presided at the speakers' table. Among the guests were Dr. Charles Levermore, president of Adelphi College, and Mrs. Levermore.

Red Cross Collects \$901.131 for the Earthquake Sufferers.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The total amount of money collected by the American National Red Cross for the Italian earthquake sufferers amounted to \$901,131 at the close of business to-day. The largest contribution from any one State was that of New York, \$22,817. California was second with \$19,067. The Christian World of New York collected \$55,000.

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